

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for concentration of fine particles dispersed in a an aqueous medium dispersion comprising, adding an ionic liquid, which does not dissolve substantially a dispersing aqueous medium of said dispersion, to said the aqueous medium dispersion containing fine particles, wherein the amount of the ionic liquid b mL to be added to 10mL of the aqueous medium containing said fine particles by a mM dispersing concentration is in the range so as the ratio a/b to be at least 0.05, and transferring said fine particles from said aqueous medium dispersion to said the ionic liquid and concentrating said the fine particles into said ionic liquid.

2. (Canceled)

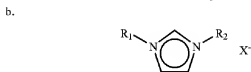
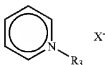
3. (Currently Amended) The method for concentration of fine particles dispersed in a the aqueous medium dispersion of claim 1, wherein the ionic liquid is an ionic liquid which is liquid at ordinary room temperature.

4. (Currently Amended) The method for concentration of fine particles

dispersed in ~~a the aqueous medium dispersion~~ of claim 3, wherein the ionic liquid is an organic ionic liquid.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for concentration of fine particles dispersed in ~~a the aqueous medium dispersion~~ of claim 4, wherein the organic ionic liquid is selected from the group consisting of compounds represented by following formulae 1,

a. formulae 1



wherein, R_3 and R^+ are an alkyl group of carbon number 1-7, n is an integer of 1-3, R_1 is an alkyl group which can possess a substitution group of carbon number 1-7, X^- is selected from the group consisting of PF_6^- , BF_4^- , NO_3^- , $(CF_3SO_3)_2N^-$, $TFST$, Cl^- and SO_3H^- .

- 6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)